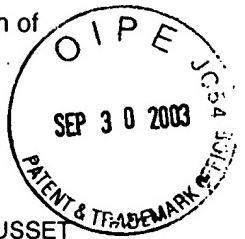


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of
FRATER et al.
Serial No. 09/885,445
Filed: June 21, 2001
Title: MASK WITH GUSSET



Atty Dkt. 4398-169
C# M#
Group Art Unit: 3743
Examiner: Kathryn P. Ferko
Date: September 30, 2003

3743/11

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE/AMENDMENT/LETTER

This is a response/amendment/letter in the above-identified application and includes an attachment which is hereby incorporated by reference and the signature below serves as the signature to the attachment in the absence of any other signature thereon.

Correspondence Address Indication Form Attached.

Fees are attached as calculated below:

Total effective claims after amendment	0	minus highest number		
previously paid for	20	(at least 20) =	0	x \$ 18.00
				\$ 0.00

Independent claims after amendment	0	minus highest number		
previously paid for	3	(at least 3) =	0	x \$ 84.00
				\$ 0.00

If proper multiple dependent claims now added for first time, add \$280.00 (ignore improper)				\$ 0.00
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Petition is hereby made to extend the current due date so as to cover the filing date of this paper and attachment(s) (\$110.00/1 month; \$410.00/2 months; \$930.00/3 months)				\$ 0.00
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Terminal disclaimer enclosed, add \$ 110.00				\$ 0.00
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<input type="checkbox"/> First/second submission after Final Rejection pursuant to 37 CFR 1.129(a) (\$750.00)				\$ 0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Please enter the previously unentered , filed				
<input type="checkbox"/> Submission attached				

Subtotal	\$	0.00
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If "small entity," then enter half (1/2) of subtotal and subtract				-\$ 0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims "small entity" status. <input type="checkbox"/> Statement filed herewith				

Rule 56 Information Disclosure Statement Filing Fee (\$180.00)				\$ 180.00
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Assignment Recording Fee (\$40.00)				\$ 0.00
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Other:				0.00
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TOTAL FEE ENCLOSED	\$	180.00
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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Account No. 14-1140. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, Virginia 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100
PTB:jck

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.
By Atty: Paul T. Bowen, Reg. No. 38,009

Signature: Paul T. Bowen

#17

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Here Patent Application of
FRATER et al.

Atty. Ref.: 4398-169

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For: MASK WITH GUSSET

* * * * *

September 30, 2003

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 is information that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. At least one of the boxes below applies to the present application:

1) This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee is required.

a) Contingent Request to Treat Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

In the event a first Office Action has been mailed prior to filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement and the Office Action was mailed more than three months since the filing of the application (for regular applications not including CPAs or RCEs),

the Office is requested to treat the present paper as a submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and charge the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 14-1140 for the fee required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

The present paper is submitted in duplicate for this purpose.

b) Contingent Request to Treat Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1)

In the event a first Office Action has been mailed prior to the filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement, and the Office Action was mailed more than three months since the filing of the application (for regular applications not including CPAs or RCEs), the Office is requested to treat the present paper as a submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1) in that the undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).

2) This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). In the event a Notice of Allowance or a Final Rejection has been mailed prior to filing this Information Disclosure Statement, the Office is

authorized to treat this as a submission under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(d) and charge the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 14-1140 for the fee required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). The present paper is submitted in duplicate for this purpose.

- b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- c. Attached is our check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
- 3) This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. It is hereby requested that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our Check No. ____ in the amount of \$____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i).
- a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
- b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign

patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).

- 4) Relevance of the document(s) is discussed in the present specification.
- 5) The document(s) was/were cited in a corresponding foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information. See MPEP § 609.
- 6) A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears below:
- 7) Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in Application No. _____, filed _____, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).
- 8) The publication date of at least one of the listed documents does not provide a month of publication. However, the year of publication of each listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Each publication date is listed on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, each listed publication date should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

FRATER et al.
Serial No. 09/885,445
September 30, 2003

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 14-1140 referencing docket number 4398-169.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:



Paul T. Bowen

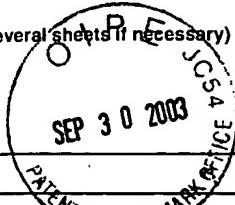
Reg. No. 38,009

PTB:jck

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)



Atty. Docket No.	Serial No.
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Applicant	
FRATER et al.	
Filing Date	Group
June 21, 2001	3743

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

TRANSLATION

OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent pages, etc.)

*Examiner _____ Date Considered _____

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application.

Form PTO-EB-A820 (Also PTO-1449)

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